



NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FIVE CLINTON, MO., RESIDENTS INDICTED FOR CONSPIRACY TO MANUFACTURE METH

KANSAS CITY, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that five Clinton, Mo., residents were indicted by a federal grand jury today for conspiracy to manufacture methamphetamine.

Joel A. Harmon, 39, **James D. Rush**, 41, **Larry D. Smith**, 35, **Max R. Hetherington**, 41, and **Michelle R. Grier**, 36, all of Clinton, were charged in a two-count indictment returned by a federal grand jury in Kansas City.

Count One of the federal indictment alleges that **Harmon, Rush, Smith, Hetherington** and **Grier** conspired to manufacture 50 grams or more of methamphetamine between Sept. 1, 2000, and April 7, 2004, in Henry County, Mo.

Count Two of the federal indictment is a forfeiture count which would require the defendants to forfeit any proceeds derived as a result of the conspiracy or any property used to commit the federal violations charged in Count One. The forfeiture would include a 1995 maroon 4x4 Dodge 1500 truck and a white Ford F-150 truck.

Graves cautioned that the charges contained in the indictment are simply accusations, and not evidence of guilt. Evidence supporting the charges must be presented to a federal trial jury, whose duty is to determine guilt or innocence.

The case is being prosecuted by Special Assistant U.S. Attorney Bruce Rhoades. It was investigated by the Henry County, Mo., Sheriff's Office and the Missouri State Highway Patrol.

This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States

Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at
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